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DRAFTED BY CA/OCS/EMR-LGANGULO:RGR

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY JL DATE 8/18/81

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒

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RA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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FOR AMBASSADOR LEWIS FROM AMBASSADOR ASENCIO

E.O. 12065:NA

TAGS CASC SOCI, IS

SUBJECT: TREATMENT OF AMCITS ENTERING ISRAEL

REF: A) TEL AVIV 18318; B) STATE 255643; C) STATE 257492

1. RCB FRITTS BRIEFED ME ON THE TREATMENT OF BLACK AMCITS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER ISRAEL. AND THE DENIAL OF ENTRY TO MANY OF THESE BECAUSE OF SUSPICION BY THE ISRAELIS OF THEIR INTENTION TO JOIN THE BLACK FREEW COMMUNITY.

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I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN THAT ALL AMCITS SEEKING TO ENTER ISRAEL BE TREATED FAIRLY AND WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION UNDER THE LAWS OF ISRAEL. WE APPRECIATE YOUR INITIATIVE AND PERSONAL ATTENTION YOU HAVE DEVOTED TO THIS MATTER IN RAISING IT WITH DR. BURG. (REFTEL A).

2. DEPT BELIEVES THIS MATTER SHOULD BE PURSUED AT THE MEETING SUGGESTED BY MR. GAD RANON (REFTEL C) WHICH IDEALLY SHOULD INCLUDE AIRPORT AND OTHER IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, THE POLICE MAYORS OF THE TOWNS WHERE THE PHC IS LOCATED, AND MEMBERS OF THE CONSULAR AND POLITICAL SECTIONS OF THE EMBASSY. SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR RAISING THIS MATTER. WE THEREFORE REQUEST THE EMBASSY TO TAKE UP THIS MATTER WITH THE MEA.

3. IN RESPONSE TO DR. BURG'S REQUEST FOR SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION AT POINTS OF ENTRY FOR BLACK AMCITS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER ISRAEL, THE EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS. THESE SHOULD ALSO BE RAISED AT THE

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MEETING SUGGESTED IN PARA 2.

A) ALL AMCITS ENTERING ISRAEL SHOULD BE TREATED EQUALLY WITH OTHER NATIONALITIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF ISRAEL. INDIVIDUAL AMCITS CAN NOT BE SINGLED OUT FOR DIFFERENT TREATMENT ON THE BASIS OF COLOR, RACE, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR CREED.

B) WHENEVER AN AMCIT IS DETAINED AND/OR ARRESTED WHEN ATTEMPTING TO ENTER ISRAEL, THE EMBASSY MUST BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY. IN ADDITION THESE AMCITS MUST BE GIVEN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPPORTUNITY TO TELEPHONE THE EMBASSY. THERE IS AN OFFICER ON DUTY AT THE EMBASSY 24 HOURS A DAY. A CONSULAR DUTY OFFICER IS ALSO AVAILABLE. (THE EMBASSY MIGHT SUGGEST THAT THE GOI PROVIDE AN OFFICIAL BRIEFING ON CONSULAR NOTIFICATION TO IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS AT AIRPORT AND OTHER POINTS OF ENTRY. A COMOFF COULD PROVIDE ANSWERS TO ANY QUESTIONS AT SUCH BRIEFING.)

C) IF THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE AN INDIVIDUAL AMCIT SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO ENTER ISRAEL AND THAT FURTHER QUESTIONING IS NECESSARY, THE FOLLOWUP QUESTIONING SHOULD BE DONE UNOBTUSIVELY, WITHOUT THE INDIVIDUAL HAVING TO SUFFER EMBARRASSMENT BEFORE OTHER PASSENGERS. APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS SHOULD BE PROVIDED. WE BELIEVE THIS SMALL COURTESY WILL DO MUCH TO LESSEN COMPLAINTS.

D) AN INITIAL DECISION MADE BY IMMIGRATION PERSONNEL TO DENY ENTRY INTO ISRAEL TO AN AMCIT, SHOULD BE REVIEWED BY AN APPROPRIATE HIGHER OFFICIAL IN THE MFA OR MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

4. DEPT APPRECIATES THE PROMPT AND THOROUGH ACTIONS AND REPORTING ON THIS MATTER BY EMBASSY. CHRISTOPHER
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